

CASE OF WAR WITH SPAIN.

Opinions of Some Local Officers of the State Militia Regarding the Matter.

PREPARED TO UPHOLD THE NATION'S HONOR.

No Spirit of Jingoism Manifested--Texas Volunteer Guard in Better Condition Than Ever Before--Cowboy Rangers Offer Their Services to General Mabry.

The geographical position of Texas makes it extremely likely that in the event of hostilities between the United States and Spain, the militia of the Lone Star State would be among the first of the volunteers called on to assist the regular army in its offensive and defensive operations against the enemy. In the first place, it stands to reason that the volunteer guard of the interior States would not be ordered out until the military organizations of the territory along the Atlantic and Gulf coasts had been sent to the front. Then, too, while the militia of New York, Pennsylvania and other States in that section is practically on a par with the regular army on account of the schools of instruction and the extensive drills in vogue, the fact that the citizen-soldiers of the South are perfectly acclimated would have the effect of causing the government to call first on it should it become necessary to augment the strength of the regular service.

On these accounts, and for other reasons, the extensive war talk resultant on the explosion of the United States battleship Maine in the harbor of Havana, following as it did, close on the heels of the letter which caused the recall of Minister De Lome, has caused a considerable number of volunteers to offer their services to the Texas Volunteer Guard, and especially among the military organizations in this section. Braver men than those who make up the militia of Texas were never before, and while the general public has become imbued to a certain extent with the belief that they are soldiers in name only, it is a safe bet that look odds that they would be able to give a good account of themselves if, unfortunately, occasion should ever arise for them to go to the front to fight for their country and their flag. Houston boasts of five of the finest companies in the State--the Light Guard, the Light Artillery, the Emmett Rifles, the Houston Cavalry and the Cowboy Rangers--and should the findings of the court of inquiry appointed to investigate the Maine disaster be of such a character as to result in President McKinley declaring war against Spain, these organizations would be found ready, willing and even anxious for an opportunity to do battle for the rights of their beloved country.

There are a number of staff officers of the Texas Volunteer Guard in this city and with a view to ascertaining their opinions regarding the matter at hand a Post representative called on some of them yesterday. While most of them regard the matter in a semi-humorous light, and while there is a considerable diversity of opinion in regard to the feasibility of the situation as it stands at present, it will be seen that there is a manifest disposition on the part of the officers to uphold the honor and dignity of the Nation without descending to jingoism.

Assistant Adjutant General T. H. Franklin of the Texas Volunteer Guard, with the rank of lieutenant colonel, assigned to duty with the First division, has a very long handle to his name, but that does not effect in the least his ideas

would be more than glad to enlist in case of emergency. Colonel Franklin is a thorough military tactician, having risen from the ranks of the famous old Houston Light Guard to the position he occupies at present. "I am of the opinion," he said in closing the conversation, "that the heads will be chopped off, figuratively speaking, from most of the staff officers of the State militia in the event of hostilities with Spain. The militia would, of course, be enlisted with the regular army as volunteers and there would be no need of all those functionaries with long titles and big salaries."

On paper, yes; I suppose I would be one of the first to lose the epaulettes, but I have the satisfaction of knowing that I could enlist as a private if I wanted to fight real badly.

"War is inevitable," was what Lieutenant Colonel O. C. Drew, Jr., said when approached on the subject. Colonel Drew is one of the youngest officers in the State militia and on that account he may be more

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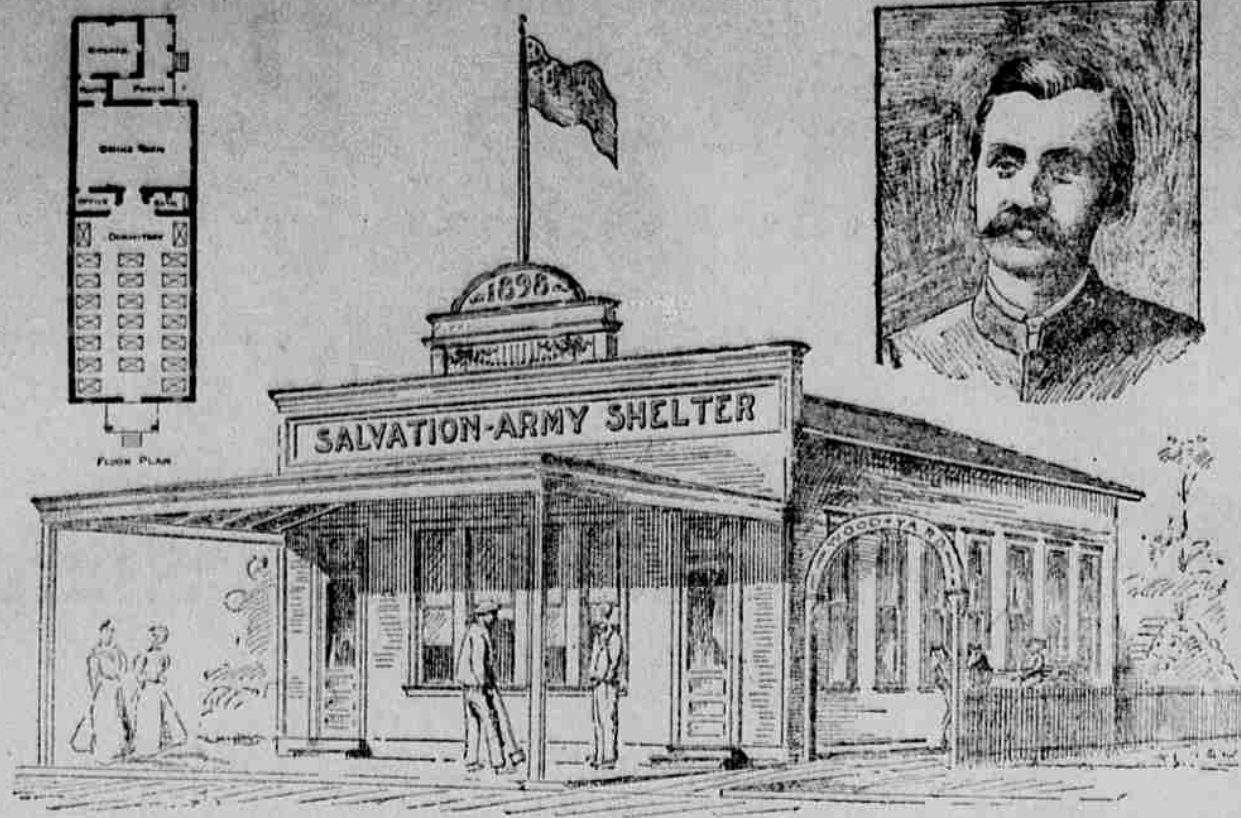
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SALVATION ARMY'S PROPOSED FOOD AND SHELTER DEPOT.



The Floor Plan. View of the Building. Captain McKenzie.

The above shows the front and one of the sides of the much needed "food and shelter depot" about to be erected in this city by that energetic friend of the poor and needy, the Salvation Army. The above cut is made from a drawing by Messrs. Rue & Dunbar, the well-known Houston architects, and shows what the building will be like when finished.

It will be one story in height and contains sufficient room to accommodate seventy-five men per night. In the rear of the building will be kitchen, bath room, pantry, dining room and office. At the back of the building will be a large wood yard. The sleeping room or dormitory will occupy the front portion of the building and will be furnished with cot beds made of strong canvas and equipped with plenty of good covering, and nothing will be left undone to cultivate habits of cleanliness and decency among those forced to partake of its shelter.

A building such as the one in the picture can not be put up for less than \$1000, and already \$500 of this amount has been collected, and with half secured Captain McKenzie and all those interested feel assured that the good people of Houston will rally to the cause and contribute the needed amount in much less time than it has taken to collect this first half. Captain McKenzie states that a good friend has kindly promised the lease of four valuable lots near the Central railroad station in the First ward free of charge to the army for the next five years, requiring only that the taxes be paid for that length

of time. These lots are situated between Henderson and Railroad streets, close to the track, thus obviating the necessity of hauling wood or supplies of any kind to the depot, and thereby saving much expense.

The Salvation Army has been signally successful in everything it has undertaken since Captain McKenzie came to Houston about six months ago. The Thanksgiving dinner to over 600 poor people was one of the greatest objects lessons in practical Christianity ever witnessed by the people of this city. It was a decided success from every standpoint and tended very materially to raise this peculiar religious organization in the estimation of the people--the word peculiar is used advisedly, as the army differs from all other religious bodies in its methods of preaching the gospel of Christianity, as it not only preaches ministering to the temporal as well as the spiritual wants of the poor and needy, but preaches what it preaches, and on all occasions stands ready to help to the best of its ability the poor and the needy everywhere. The army believes that a hungry man is more easily reached by the gospel after his physical wants have been supplied.

Following hard after the Thanksgiving dinner came the Christmas tree to the poor children of this town, at which over 300 tiny hands and many little ones of the respectable poor were made happy by gifts of candy and fruit and articles of clothing, their happiness on this occasion proving once more the truth of the Salvation Army's motto.

"Would the National Guard be called upon in such an event?" "While not speaking from any direct information on this question, I naturally presume the government would look to her volunteer guard in the event of war, and the Southern troops would probably be mustered into the service, as they would prove more available, being thoroughly acclimated, than those farther North. I have been assured that the fever can not harm me and I am ready to go when called upon."

Captain C. Towles of the Houston Cavalry wasted but few words on the matter. "There will be no war," he said. "Mark Hanna has delivered his ultimatum to that effect and what he says goes with the present administration."

And Captain Towles, it may be said in passing, is not a Hanna man.

BRUNNER NOTES.

The fine health of Brunner people is distressing to the doctors.

Mr. W. H. Seelies of the Central shops has purchased the beautiful cottage formerly owned by Mr. Haynes and is now occupying same.

Mr. T. J. Kuykendall of Huntsville has purchased and with his family are now occupying the handsome cottage, corner of Cedar and Fowler avenues.

The by-laws of the Brunner Old Men's club have been amended so as to admit to membership all persons of good moral character between the ages of 50 and 125 years. This is a very interesting club and has daily meetings in the postoffice building.

The armadillo recently brought from Mexico by Walter McClelland is a fine specimen of the animal, which appears to have in him parts of the alligator, rat, turtle and claws of an eagle. It attracts considerable attention from those who are aware that Mr. McClelland has it.

Death of Mrs. J. W. Barnes.

Mrs. Emma Caroline Barnes, wife of Mr. J. W. Barnes, died at the family residence, No. 601 Capitol avenue, at 5 o'clock yesterday morning.

Deceased was 63 years of age and had been a resident of Houston since 1871, having come here with her husband from Wilmington, N. C.

She was possessed of a most loving, self-sacrificing, Christian character; a kind and faithful friend, an affectionate and devoted wife, beloved by every one who knew her.

She leaves an aged husband, a sister, Mrs. Swartz of Hearne, two nieces, Mrs. J. F. Palm of Hearne and Mrs. B. F. Rogers of this city, besides a host of warm friends to mourn her demise. The funeral will take place this afternoon at 4 o'clock from Christ church, of which she was a communicant during all her residence in Houston.

The following gentlemen will act as pall bearers: Messrs. V. R. Watson, Henry C. House, Oscar Reynaud, E. A. Cargill, R. M. Blain and W. H. Palmer, interment in Glenwood cemetery.

To Dispose of Rare Fabrics.

Under the patronage of Mrs. T. W. House and Mrs. O. T. Holt an informal reception will be held next Thursday afternoon and evening in the parlors of the Capitol Hotel for the purpose of exhibiting some very rare Oriental fabrics recently brought from Constantinople. They will be sold at a price barely the cost of production, and those interested in possessing themselves of something in this line not often seen in this country are invited to call and inspect them.

The Ralston Club.

The regular monthly meeting of the Ralston Public Club will be held at the residence of Mrs. F. E. B. Shaffer, 107 San Felipe street, on Tuesday evening, March 1, at 8 o'clock. The exercises will be given the form of a question box, and members and visitors are asked to bring written questions with them.

V. G. is one of the best informed men on military matters in this section. He has had a large experience, having been one of the famous old Light Guard, which won trophies of victory whenever it confronted with other companies for prize drill honors. He is a thorough tactician and

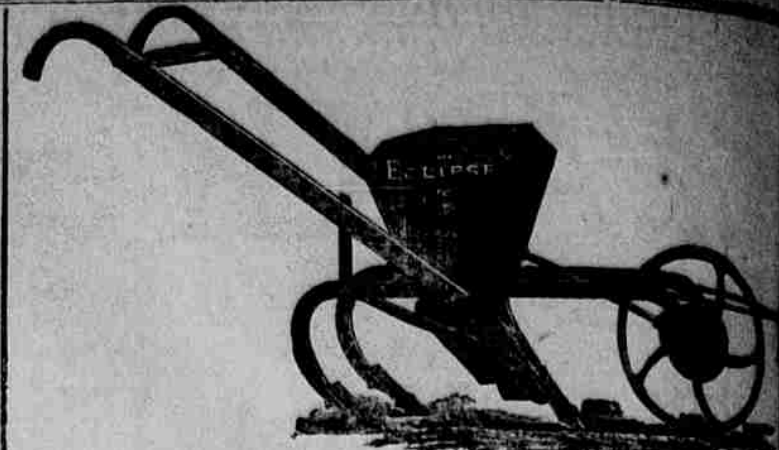
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The "Swellest" are the Royal Purple Sandal and the Brown Southern Button with Vesting tops. They are \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.50, \$2.00 and \$2.50.

ACHENBACH & SCHULTE,
1103 Congress Avenue.

Closing Out

...That is what we are doing--closing our splendid \$25,000 stock of Furniture at prices that defy competition--at prices so low that other dealers find it profitable to buy from us instead of from the factories. Notwithstanding our heavy sales during the past three weeks, our stock, even of staples, is practically unbroken, and it will surely pay you to see us before buying. Read this list:

| | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| \$ 5.00 Kitchen Sets at... \$3.75 | \$ 3.25 Kitchen Safes at... \$2.35 |
| 10.00 Iron Beds at... 6.50 | 5.00 Iron Beds at... 3.50 |
| 16.00 Bed Room Suites at... 13.00 | 28.50 Bed Room Suites at... 20.00 |
| 15.00 Standing Desks (6 ft.) at... 10.50 | 10.00 Hat Racks at... 7.75 |
| 6.50 Baby Carriages at... 4.75 | 9.50 Baby Carriages at... 6.85 |

And so on all the way down the line. But great as are the bargains in staples, it is in

Fine Furniture

That we are offering particularly enticing bargains. For instance, there is--

| | |
|--|----------|
| Mahogany sideboard, cut from \$250 to... | \$165.00 |
| Mahogany Chamber Suite, cut from \$250 to... | \$195.00 |
| Oak Sideboard, cut from \$125 to... | \$90.00 |
| Turkish Leather Couch, cut from \$65 to... | \$47.50 |
| Leather Easy Chair, cut from \$55 to... | \$38.50 |

And many other equally startling reductions. All prices are spot cash. We can't sell at cost and give credit, too.

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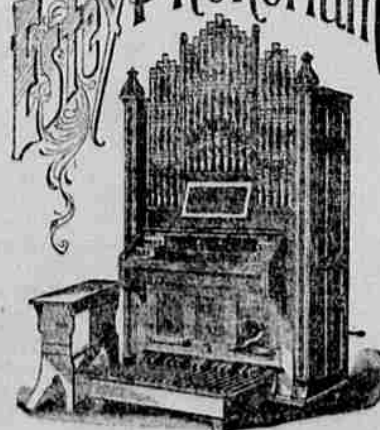
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